

Governor Sayers House
Bastrop, Texas.

HABS No. 33-C-5

Bastrop, La.

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. 33

Historic American Buildings Survey
Marvin Eickenroht, District Officer
San Antonio, Texas.

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GOVERNOR SAYERS HOUSE
BASTROP, BASTROP CO., TEXAS

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The present owners are the heirs of George H. Perkins and Sarah F. Perkins, who inherited the house in 1933, when George H. Perkins died.

The house is occupied by Mr. & Mrs. E. D. Perkins, who rent out part of the house to Mr. & Mrs. Frank Wilson. E. D. Perkins is one of the heirs.

Joseph D. Sayers had the house built in 1868. Ella M. Evans, wife of I. H. Evans, bought the house November 15, 1899. The first National Bank of Bastrop acquired it at public auction August 5, 1903 and Geo. H. Perkins bought it in 1907.

The original house consisted of four rooms, a hall and two porches. At an unknown later date an addition consisting of Kitchen, Bath, and Service Porch was added to the rear of the house. This addition was made by moving two out-buildings and connecting them to the house; these were probably not original out-buildings because they have no architectural value. The rear porch was also enclosed, to form another bedroom. The other out-buildings and the fences have been remodeled, added, and moved and have no architectural value.

The house stands on the original site and was built in 1868. It is not believed that an architect's services were used in the building of the house, and the builder's name is unknown. A Captain Knowles felled and stripped the walnut used in the house, and he might have been the builder.

Joseph D. Sayers was born in 1841. He was the son of Dr. David Sayers of Grenada, Mississippi. In 1851 the Sayers family moved to Bastrop, Texas; here Joseph was educated in the Hancock School and the Bastrop Military School. He entered the Confederate Army as a private at the age of twenty, was wounded twice and served two years on crutches, retiring in 1865 with the rank of Major. Sayers was elected State Senator in 1872 and lieutenant governor in 1878. In 1879 he married Online Walton of Bastrop. Sayers was elected REPRESENTATIVE FROM 10TH District 1899. GOVERNOR IN 1899

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representative from the Tenth District to Congress in 1879; he represented Texas in Congress for fourteen years. In 1899 Joseph D. Sayers became Governor of the State of Texas, in which office he served two terms. In 1929 Governor Sayers died at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. His remains were interred in the family plot in Fairview Cemetery of Bastrop, Texas.

Information on the original Kitchen is vague; it is thought that it was detached from the house, a usual arrangement in homes of the Southwest of that age.

Author Louis C. Page, Jr.

Approved Marvin Eickenscht

Reviewed 1936 H.C.F.